

## PROCEEDINGS

OF

### A PUBLIC MEETING OF CITIZENS OF THE COUNTY OF LAWRENCE, MISSISSIPPI,

REQUESTING

*The Senators and Representatives of the State to ask for a grant of alternate sections of land for the improvement of the navigation of the Pearl river, in said State.*

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FEBRUARY 11, 1846.

Referred to the Committee on Public Lands, and ordered to be printed.

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#### LAWRENCE COUNTY MEETING.

At a meeting of a portion of the citizens of Lawrence county, convened at the court-house, in Monticello, on Thursday, the 1st day of January, A. D. 1846, pursuant to previous publication of notice, Colonel Solomon Sutton was, on motion, called to the chair, and John D. Bowen appointed secretary, both by unanimous vote.

The meeting being thus organized, hon. William Vannersen arose and delivered a short address to explain the object of the meeting, and to press upon the citizens the importance of the subject of the permanent and safe navigation of Pearl river, and concluded by offering for the consideration of the meeting the following preamble and resolutions, to wit:

#### PREAMBLE.

Whereas the permanent improvement of the navigation of Pearl river is a subject of the highest degree of interest to the entire State of Mississippi, and more particularly to those counties immediately contiguous to the stream, and to central Mississippi generally; and whereas, notwithstanding the subject is deemed one of intense and abiding interest to the people of eastern and central Mississippi in particular, as well as one of long standing, though all antecedent efforts to effect the great object have been attended with fruitless results; and whereas we who are now assembled view with great pleasure the grand and noble effort lately made by our sister State, Louisiana, in clearing out and putting in complete navigable condition the western branch of Pearl river, commonly called West Pearl, from its mouth to its intersection with the main stream; and whereas, we feel it to be our duty not to be behind the people of Louisiana, but heartily to co-operate with them in every legitimate measure calculated to effect so desirable an object as the permanent and safe navigation of Pearl river, from its mouth to the highest point of practicable navigation: Therefore—

*Be it resolved,* That the members of the State legislature from Lawrence county be, and they are hereby, earnestly requested to lay the subject before the legislature at an early day, and in the shape of a bill to solicit that body for such aid to effect the object in view as in their wisdom and justice they may think proper to grant.

*Be it further resolved,* That the representation from Lawrence county, and the senator from Lawrence and Marion, be, and they are hereby, requested to introduce into the legislature of the State of Mississippi, at its ensuing session, to be holden on the first Monday in January A. D. 1846, and support the same with their best efforts, a memorial to the Congress of the United States, asking that body for the passage of a law granting to the State of Mississippi, under suitable and proper restrictions, such a number of alternate sections of the public lands, bordering Pearl river, in the State of Mississippi, as in the wisdom of the State legislature they may think proper to suggest, to be used and applied by the State as a standing fund for the great object of improving the navigation of Pearl river.

*Be it further resolved,* That the delegation in the Senate and House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States representing the State of Mississippi be, and they are hereby, earnestly requested to use such means as are necessary to procure such a grant of public lands as is contemplated by the second resolution in these proceedings, at as early a day as practicable.

*Be it further resolved,* That a manuscript copy of these proceedings be forwarded to each of the Senators and Representatives in the Congress of the United States from the State of Mississippi, and to the Senator and each of the Representatives in the State legislature of Mississippi from the county of Lawrence, and the senatorial district of Lawrence and Marion counties.

*Resolved,* That the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the chairman and secretary, and published in the Monticello Journal; and that the editors of the Mississippian be, and they are hereby, requested to publish the same.

Which several resolutions are unanimously adopted.

On motion of Wm. Vannarsen,

The meeting adjourned.

SOLOMON SUTTON, *Chairman.*

JOHN D. BOWEN, *Secretary.*